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CENTER OF VISION



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MassArt Center of Vision

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ABOUT US

MassArt's Center of Vision serves as a forum for the MassArt student community. We publish a range of mediums, both written and visual, continuously online and monthly in print. Center of Vision is a place for our college community to explore its creative output, express diverging opinions, and discover what's happening on campus and beyond. We believe the sustainability of this publication comes from allowing each new generation of students to make their mark. As a place where every student can have their say, Center of Vision belongs wholly to the MassArt community.

New members are always welcome to join. Here are some positions we're currently looking for:

Online Editor	Columnists
Print Editor	Photojournalists
Art/Music Reviewer	Event Reporters

If any of these interest you, email us at snews@massart.edu and we can help get you started.

SUBMISSIONS

We are always looking for student artwork, designs and writing to feature in our monthly issues and on our website. We accept all kinds of work, in any type of media. If you would like to submit your work, follow the submission guidelines on our website and send your images and writing to snews@massart.edu.

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MASSART
MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE
OF ART AND DESIGN

Addressing

Diversity

By David Gorelik

In discussion with Professors Adriana Katzew
and Marika Prezioso, members of the Diversity Council

In Spring 2016, the MassArt student group, Artists of Color Union, presented a list of demands to the then-interim President Ken Strickland. The list of demands would later be involved in the MassArt Plan for a More Diverse, Inclusive and Socially Just University, a new three-year diversity plan that will implement change across the campus community. The plan outlines several steps that would increase diversity, improve inclusion, educate members of the community, and address the experiences of students, faculty and staff.

The draft for this plan was submitted by the Diversity and Social Justice Task Force co-chairs, Associate Vice President Jamie Costello and Associate Vice President Dan Serig, who worked in collaboration with Mo Barbosa, Assistant Director of Health Resources in Action. Having fulfilled its role of preparing and ratifying the new diversity plan, The Diversity and Social Justice Task Force was dismantled in the spring and replaced with a new committee, the Diversity Council, which had its first meeting on October 26th. The Diversity Council is composed of four faculty, four administrators, and four students, led by co-chairs consisting of one faculty and one student representatives.

As outlined in President David Nelson's charge, the Diversity Council is responsible for clarifying and making recommendations for the implementation of the new Diversity Plan. In addition, the Council will also produce a written report to the President on a quarterly basis, which expresses both the majority opinion as well as dissenting and divergent opinions from the community. The Council will also be evaluated periodically for renewal, continuation, or recommendation for Special Committee status. One particular task of the Diversity Council is to replace the word "diversity" throughout the Diversity Plan with the specific demographic terms, along with their definitions, in which the plan is actively trying to include.

In addition to its own operations, the Diversity Council will work in tandem with a Mirror Committee, which is a student-led group that consist of over eighty percent members of color, a majority of which also represents women, LGBTQIAA, religious minorities, and disabled communities, all of whom are invested in the wellbeing and needs of underrepresented students at MassArt. The Mirror Committee works to address, clarify, revise, and hold MassArt accountable to the goals and actions described in the Diversity Plan. All of its participants must be aware of and proficient in social justice issues, including strategies to minimize and resolve systemic inequities surrounding issues of race, gender, religion, sexuality, mental wellness, mobility and economic status. The Mirror Committee's opinions and suggestions will have equal weight with the Diversity Council's written reports, which will then be presented to the MassArt President.

The Diversity Plan has generated questions and some criticism from the MassArt community since its initial release, but many of those concerns have been addressed by various bodies across the college. Since the Diversity Council and Mirror Committee are still new programs, they are still in the process of reviewing the demands made last year, including those that were agreed upon, those that have already been met and those that haven't or need further discussion.

As the Diversity Plan makes clear, the path to building a more inclusive and socially-conscious community is a lengthy one. In the future, Center of Vision will be dedicating space to explore more of the initiatives and ongoing changes at MassArt in response to the demands.

Both the full list of ACU's Demands and the Diversity Plan are available on MassArt's website. If you are interested in learning more about the Diversity Council, please contact Adriana Katzew, faculty co-chair, or Mickie Kryger, student co-chair.

Labor of Love

By Jennifer Smith

Behind the scenes of curating a MassArt student show

Gallery openings are constantly-occurring and popular events at art school, and with MassArt's seven major gallery spaces (Student Life, North Crackatorium, Arnheim, Brant, Bakalar & Paine, President's, and Godine) there is always artwork to drool over, snacks to consume, and art enthusiasts to chat with. One of the great opportunities for students at MassArt is the chance to create, curate, and participate in many different types of shows. While collaborating, planning, and coordinating a show may be difficult, it is extremely rewarding work. Let's hear from some of the artists and organizers involved in some of last month's shows.

HAUTE A LA MODE

North Crackatorium (Tuesday, Nov 15)

Curated by Stephanie Chang, Photography '17 and Saahera Ashraf, Photography '17

Was this your first time curating a show?

"Yes! We've been in many shows before but this is our first time curating. Both Saahera and I were transfers into the photography program and decided to curate a show reflecting our aligned love for high fashion. Our show was centered around showcasing artists expressing themselves in different mediums fusing fine art, fashion culture, and the avant-garde. Being friends and classmates, we had an incredible journey organizing the show with our featured artists and sharing our creative vision. Shout-out to Bountheng Tanakhone for

being the MVP and helping us set up opening night. A huge thank you to the more than 60 people that came out and partied for our opening, and also all our friends who constantly support us!"

Did you run into any problems organizing the show?

"I would say first off balancing photo work, school, and the show is a feat. Then, we have to communicate with all the participants and enforce deadlines."

Were there any unforeseen complications or difficulties?

"Not really, but we had a big goal to pull off. We really had a vision for what we wanted the show and reception to be like. We didn't want the reception to just be an opening. Actively working in the fashion industry, (being on set for big productions and shooting NYFW) I learned that there is always an emphasis in fashion on the full immersive experience. We wanted to bring that to our show, with a focus on the circulation through the space, music, lighting, and diversity of artwork."

Any advice for other curators?

"Deadlines! Make sure you plan in advance and set deadlines or else things will be chaotic!"

Interview with Stephanie Chang

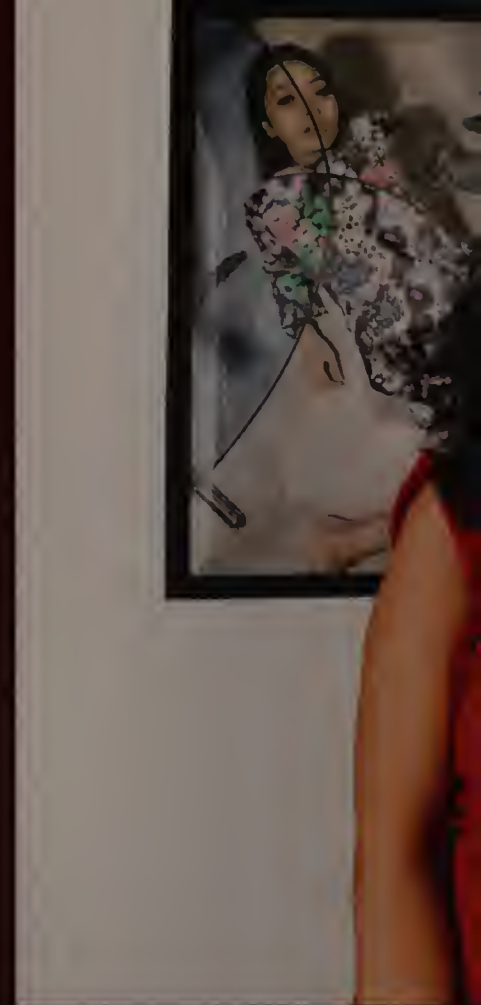




PHOTO BY STEPHANIE CHAN

▲ The Haute a la Mode curators: Saahera Ashraf (left) and Stephanie Chang (right)

SIM BIG

Pozen Center and Godine Gallery (Thursday Nov 17)
Curated by Shannon Gallagher, Photography/SIM '17, Julian Cintron, SIM/Animation '17, and Ian Solaski, SIM '17, Ena Kantardzic, Art History '17, May Singleton-Kahn, Painting '17

What is the SIM BIG show?

"Every year in November SIM puts on a big exhibition to show off the kind of work all of the students are making. We use all of the SIM spaces; Godine, the Pozen Center, classroom N181, some of the new spaces in the DMC, even the hallways. Because of the magnitude of the event it is a really stressful time in the semester for all of us; but it is also a really beautiful collaboration that involves all of the SIM students, from sophomores to seniors. This year in the gallery we had a huge range of work from 2D paintings, to video, to large scale installations, and three performances which happened during the reception of SIM BIG. This year Godine had installed works from Sam Aprea, Sunny Chen, Julian Cintron, Marissa Cote, Chloe DuBois, Genna Gmeiner, Danny Gonzalez, Montana Gulbrand, Sam Malabre, Caitlin Quinones, Sopheak Sam, May Singleton-Kahn, Ian Solaski, Annabelle Wallin, Ashley Wasilewski, Timothy Wood, and myself."

Performance art at the
SIM BIG show ▼

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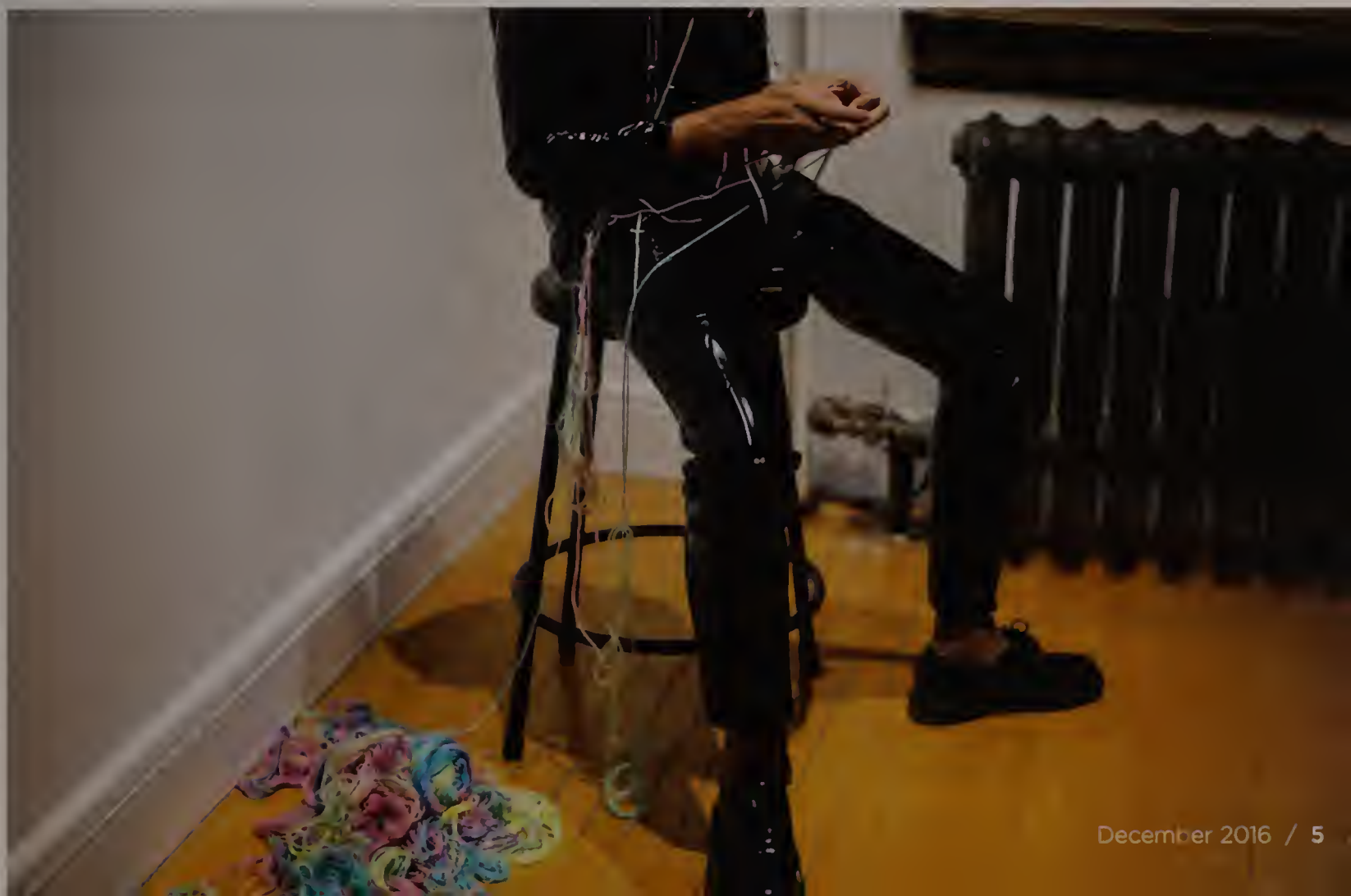


PHOTO BY SHANNON GALLAGHER

THE GALLERY

Student Work

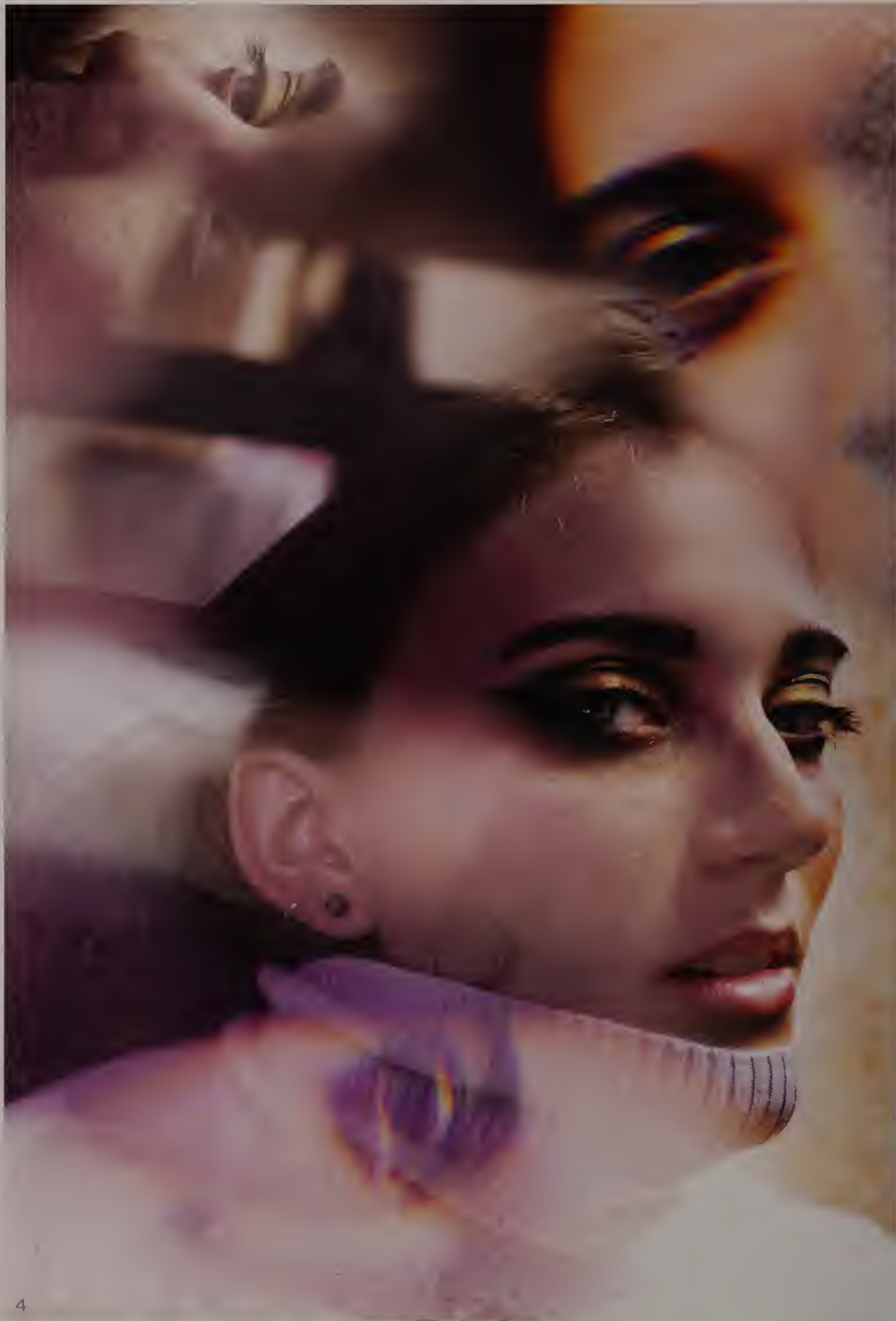


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CARE MORE

5

Wanna see your art here too?

Email your work to snews@massart.edu
and include your name, major, year of
graduation, and the title of your piece.



6



- 1 "The Year of the Owl", Annelise Freund, Illustration '19 2 "Manhattan Beach Pier", Cameron Larry, Photography '20
 3 "Sunset Peacock", Amenda Wong, Graphic Design '18 4 "Paramnesia of You Tomorrow", Stephanie Cheng, Photography '17
 5 "Care More", Dora Wang, Illustration '18 6 "One-Way Ticket", Stephanie Chang, Photography '17
 7 "Boston Library", Monica Oh, Illustration and Painting '18

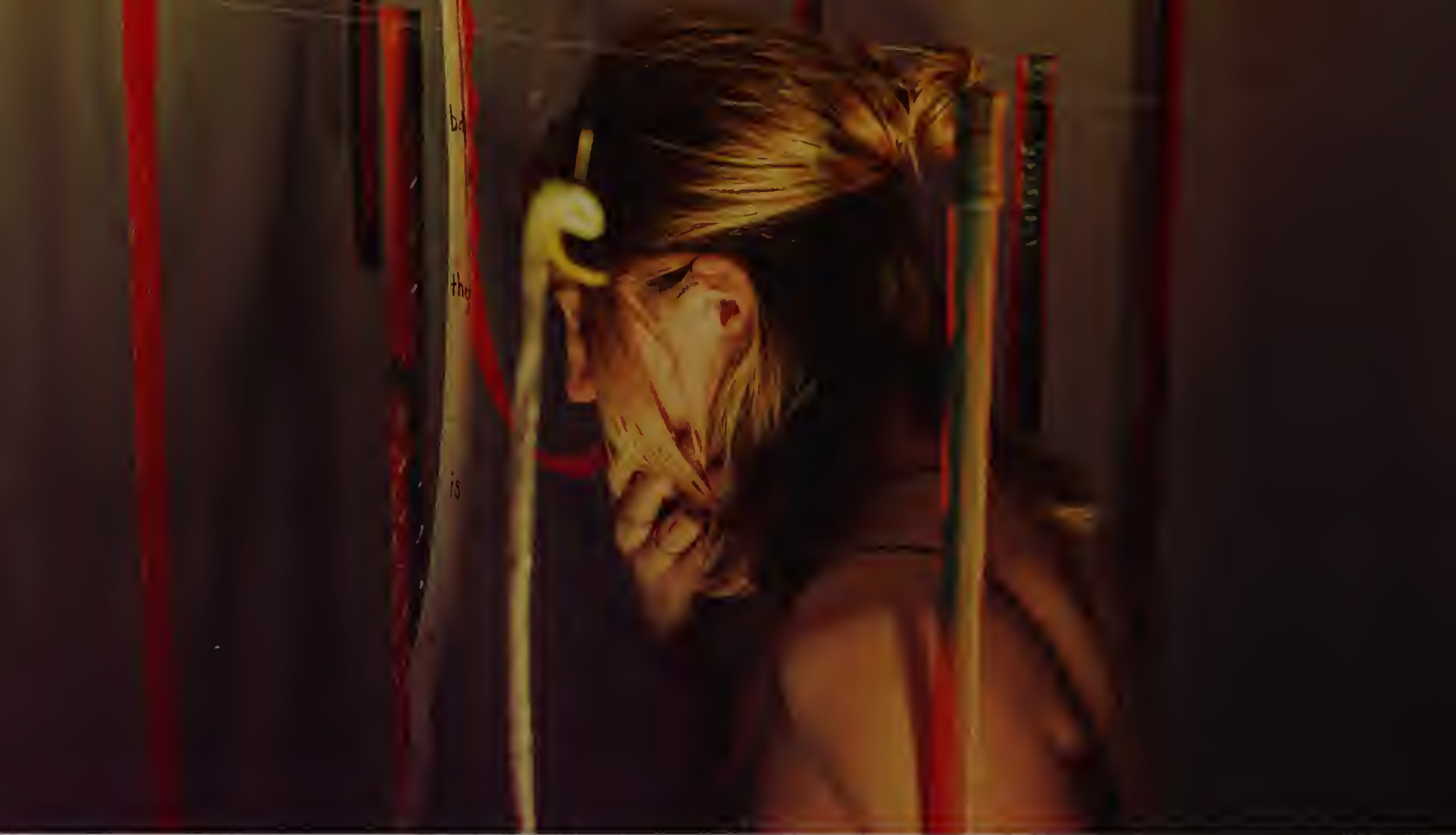


PHOTO BY SHANNON GALLAGHER

▲ Performance art at the SIM BIG show

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Was this your first time curating a show?

“Myself and four other collaborators applied and were accepted to be the managers and curators for the Godine Family Gallery during the 2016-2017 academic year. Because we have a bigger team than usual, we have been rotating the responsibility of curating shows between the five of us, apart from our first show this semester, which we curated together. Before Mass-Art I was invited by the manager of Thomas Young Gallery to curate four week-long shows there, and that was my first high-pressure experience curating.”

Did you run into any problems organizing the show?

“There are always speed bumps when organizing shows because a lot of the time you are relying on other people, with this particular departmental show one of the most stressful problems we encountered was that more than one person had the same equipment reserved from the crypt for the exhibition. We all had to improvise on the best way to install the work at that point. Additionally, since the installation was very tech-heavy, we had a lot of technological issues where things weren’t performing the way they were supposed to, lights were acting up, etc. and again we had to either find the time to fix them or improvise and come up with a different solution.”



PHOTO BY JENNIFER SMITH

Any advice for other curators?

"Advice I would give to other curators, especially new ones, is to plan everything as far in advance as possible because there are always going to be issues you can't foresee. Make sure you are communicating everything with everyone else involved, unless you are curating your own solo show, you are very seldom working without a group of people. And for the same reason, be ready to practice compromising: you are working with creative people who want the show to look good just as badly as you do but sometimes not everyone agrees on the best way to do that."

Interview with Shannon Gallagher

THE AWAY SHOW

Student Life Gallery (Thursday Nov 17)

Curated by MassArt's International Global Mentors 2016-17, Veronica Pedrosa, Illustration with Fibers minor '18 and Shanti Zsch, Animation '19

"The Away show showcases student work inspired by international travel and culture. It is an exhibition that cele-

brates diversity during International Education Week. The show aspires to show how cultures influence the art-making process, inspiring artists who want to promote their own backgrounds or what they have experienced in other countries different from their home."

Was this your first time curating a show?

VP: "Yes, this was the first show we both had curated at MassArt. We really did not encounter any major problems. We received a lot of submissions and artists brought their work on time for the most part. We should have put up the Call for Art signs sooner and that would have given more time for students to prepare."

SZ: "While we didn't face any major complications, knowing as little as I did, it involved much more work than I had anticipated. The main thing that had us worried at the start was a lack of submissions, but that resolved itself as the deadline rolled closer and we noticed a lot of participants working last minute. With everyone being so busy and deadlines being too tight, things got a little hectic but never too much to handle. The sheer number of people we had to coordinate every move with became somewhat overwhelming at times, but I think the toughest thing to deal with really was the actual installation process. There was a lot of back and forth decisions made in the placement of the walls and artworks, and putting everything into place was another time consuming task."

Any advice for other curators?

VP: "What took the longest was cleaning the gallery and planning where to hang everything because although we had made a floor plan in which we decided where everything would be, it is different when you see all the work in person. Hanging everything just takes time but it is not really complicated; just have patience and plan to spend at least 6 hours installing, that would be our major advice."

SZ: "I'd say my advice would be to acknowledge the amount of time management that needs to be put into this, because in the end it's a group effort and there is a lot of communication to be done with many different people. Even though the workload isn't to be underestimated, it's a really rewarding experience to know you had the ability to share the works of so many young artists."

Interview with Veronica Pedrosa and Shanti Zsch



◀ Pictured (left to right): Shanti Zsch, Illesha Khandelwal, Ana Fuj, Saahera Ashraf, and Veronica Pedrosa.



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER SMITH, SHANNON GALLAGHER
AND STEPHANIE CHANG



